



**ARIZONA STATE SENATE**  
*Fifty-Second Legislature, Second Regular Session*

FACT SHEET FOR H.B. 2615

campuses; free speech zone; prohibition

Purpose

Prohibits the limitation of an area on a community college or university campus in which free speech may be exercised.

Background

Current law states that a university or community college shall not restrict a student's right to speak, including verbal speech, holding a sign or distributing fliers or other materials, in a public forum. A student's speech in a public forum may only be restricted by a community college or university if it demonstrates the application of the burden is in the least restrictive means of furthering a compelling governmental interest (A.R.S. § 15-1864).

The First Amendment to the United States Constitution states that Congress shall make no law abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

There is no anticipated fiscal impact to the state General Fund associated with this legislation.

Provisions

1. Prohibits a community college or university from limiting an area on campus in which free speech may be exercised.
2. Stipulates that the limitation of free speech on campus is subject to reasonable time, place and manner restrictions.
3. Becomes effective on the general effective date.

House Action

GHE	2/18/16	DP	6-2-0-1
3 <sup>rd</sup> Read	3/2/16		47-11-2

Prepared by Senate Research  
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FB/ZD/rf